



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

April 22, 2004

In re application of : Wilkinson, Arland  
Serial No. : 10/734,347  
Filed : December 12, 2003  
Title : **BARBECUE COOKING UTENSIL**  
Attorney Docket No. : 4876.001

**TRANSMITTAL**

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant hereby encloses its Information Disclosure Statement with copies of references.  
A brief description of each patent is listed below.

U.S. Patent No. 4,332,409, issued to Stachowicz, discloses a combination fork has a handle at one end of an elongated shaft, and tines are provided at the other end of the shaft for cooking food morsels over an open source of heat. The handle of the cooking fork includes at the butt end thereof an open bore. A smaller fork is adapted to be force-fit into the bore. The smaller fork may be extracted from the bore to remove the cooked food morsels from the tines of the larger fork.

U.S. Patent No. 4,539,751, issued to Chan, discloses a barbecue fork is provided which can be separated into a number of shorter pieces or lengths for storage and the pieces then assembled end to end by connecting means before use. Also to assist in propping up the fork a supporting member, axially slidale along the shaft, can be provided, the supporting member comprises a pair of domed plates placed back to back and each plate having a number of outwardly projecting arms.

Applicant: Arland Wilkinson  
Serial No: 10/734,347

U.S. Patent No. 4,734,984, issued to Snell et al., discloses an improved kitchen implement is provided and consists of a handle and an elongated shank extending from the handle. The shank has a right angle bent end with a curved point tip to remove olives and peppers from bottles and to turn meat when being cooked

U.S. Patent No. 4,844,525, issued to Tarlow et al., discloses a combination barbecue fork and spatula tool which can be inserted under a food item with an upper pivoted pointed or barbed portion that can grasp the food item so it can be picked up and turned over or removed.

U.S. Patent No. 5,775,207, issued to Warren, discloses a safety fork for roasting hot dogs and marshmallows over an open fire. The fork has an elongated shaft with a handle at one end and a hook at the other. The hook is formed from a pair of tines extending forwardly, then bending rearwardly forming a bight defining a food holding area adapted for receipt of one or more hot dogs or marshmallows and finally extending rearwardly, said tines having a plane of symmetry passing through the shaft. Forwardly and rearwardly extending portions of tines are in stacked planes so that the food holding area continues for a distance along the forwardly extending portion of the tines.

U.S. Patent No. 6,286,418, issued to Berke et al., discloses an improved barbecue and kabob skewers are described. The barbecue skewer includes a rod or brochette to support, warm and cook food and a structure that allows for easy and effective removal of food when served. As an additional feature of the remover may include a safety guard to protect fingers, hands and arms from burns. The remover may also include a brush or tough material to scrape and clean the skewer. Further, the remover may be attached to a skewer handle for storage and convenience or may be separately applied for use.

U.S. Patent No. 6,321,408 B1, issued to Esterson et al., discloses a basting brush having a replaceable bristle head provides for economical and hygienic reuse of basting brush handle portions. The brush also permits rapid twist-lock disconnection and replacement of the bristle head element.

Applicant: Arland Wilkinson  
Serial No: 10/734,347

Angled bristles, a curved neck and a soft-grip hand-piece provide for improved comfort during use for more convenient basting action.

) U.S. Patent No. D455,559, issued to Wang et al., discloses an ornamental design for a barbecue basting brush.

Should the Examiner have any concerns or comments, the undersigned would appreciate a telephone conference in order to expedite this case.

Respectfully submitted,



David P. Lhota, Reg. No. 39,275  
Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler  
Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A.  
Suite 1900, 200 East Broward Boulevard  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301  
(954) 462-9576



Please place a plus-sign (+) inside this box →

APR 26 2004

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

|  |   |    |   |                        |                  |
|--|---|----|---|------------------------|------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO                            |   |    |   | Complete if Known      |                  |
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> |   |    |   | Application Number     | 10/734347        |
| (use as many sheets as necessary)                        |   |    |   | Filing Date            |                  |
|  |   |    |   | First Named Inventor   | ARLAND WILKINSON |
|  |   |    |   | Group Art Unit         |                  |
|  |   |    |   | Examiner Name          |                  |
| Sheet  | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 4876.001         |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|                       |  |                    |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

**\*EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

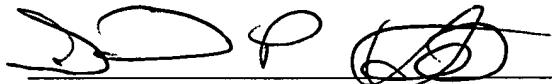


PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE  
TENT APPLICATION: **BARBECUE COOKING UTENSIL**  
SERIAL NO.: **10/734347**  
FILE NO.: **4876.001**

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the following correspondence: **TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT; INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (WITH COPIES OF REFERENCES); and RETURN POSTCARD FOR CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT** is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 23 day of April, 2004.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David P. Lhota  
Date: 4-23-04

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadef & Sitterson, P.A.  
200 East Broward Boulevard, Suite 1900  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301  
(954) 462-9500